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PP RUEHFK
DE RUEHKO #2825 1730422
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 220422Z JUN 07
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4768
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RUALSFJ/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 1690
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 5263
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STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - DPRK

11. LEAD STORIES: Most Friday morning papers front-paged
DOS spokesman McCormack's confirmation of Assistant
Secretary of State Hill's meeting on Thursday with his

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North Korean counterpart Kim Kye Gwan in Pyongyang.

12. "A/S Hill's Visit to DPRK: Don't Leave Abduction
Issue Behind" The conservative Sankei editorialized
(6/22): "Assistant Secretary of State Hill, the chief
US delegate to the six-party talks, visited Pyongyang
Thursday for talks with his North Korean counterpart
Kim Kye Gwan and other officials. The purpose of Hill's
visit was to hold direct talks on the North's
implementation of initial steps toward
denuclearization, including the shutdown and sealing of
the Yongbyon nuclear complex, and a resumption of the
six-party talks.... Hill must not only ensure that the
DPRK implements the initial steps but also discern
North Korea's willingness to completely abandon its
nuclear program. He should keep in mind that there can
be no retreat from the February six-party agreement,
and that he must press the North Koreans to resolve the
abduction issue. Japan has consistently called for a
comprehensive settlement of the nuclear, missile, and
abduction issues. It is only natural that the Abe
administration has been insisting that Japan will not
provide any economic assistance to Pyongyang without
progress leading to a settlement of the abduction
issue. Japan should maintain this policy."

DONOVAN